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No. II.

WATERPROOF BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. WILLIAM KEY, 111 London Wall, for his Method of Constructing Waterproof Boots and Shoes.

111 London Wall,

SIR,

12th March, 1840.

HAVING, by an improvement in the solution of caoutchouc, succeeded in producing a waterproof boot and shoe, by applying it to the preparation of leather, I am desirous to submit the process to the Society of Arts, to obtain their valuable opinion and approbation on its suitability for that purpose.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

W. A. GRAHAM, Esq.

Secretary, &c. &c.

WILLIAM KEY.

The leather is made waterproof by applying to one or both sides, according to the part of the shoe for which it is required, a solution of caoutchouc in turpentine and linseed oil. The upper leather is lined to any required height with chamois-leather coated on one side with the solution, and is sewed, together with its lining, to the welt and inside sole. The under side of this sole, the

welt and the stitches, are then saturated with the solution, and a middle sole, coated on both sides, is put on, in lieu of the *offal* or filling of refuse-leather which is usually employed. The whole is then covered with the under sole coated on the inside.